

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 7, through line 21 as follows:

The "aliphatic C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> acyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a group obtained by bonding a carbonyl group to a terminal of the above-defined "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group" or "unsaturated C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group". Examples include an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, iso-butyryl group, valeryl group, iso-valeryl group, pivaloyl group, caproyl group, decanoyl group, lauroyl group, myristoyl group, palmitoyl group, stearoyl group, arachidoyl group, acryloyl group, ~~propiolic~~ propioloyl group, ~~eretonyl~~ crotonoyl group, ~~iso-eretonyl~~ iso-crotonoyl group, ~~eleinol~~ oleoyl group and linolenoyl group. An aliphatic acyl group having 2 to 6 carbon atoms, such as an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, iso-butyryl group or acryloyl group, is preferable.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 5, through line 11 as follows:

The "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfonyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a sulfonyl group to which the above-defined "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group" is bonded. Specific examples include a methylsulfonyl methanesulfonyl group, ethylsulfonyl ethanesulfonyl group, n-propylsulfonyl n-propanesulfonyl group and isopropylsulfonyl isopropanesulfonyl group. For example, a methylsulfonyl methanesulfonyl group is preferable.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 27, through page 52, line 6 as follows:

The "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfinyl group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a group obtained by bonding a sulfinyl group to a terminal of the above-defined "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group". Examples include a methylsulfinyl methanesulfinyl group, ethylsulfinyl ethanesulfinyl group, n-propylsulfinyl n-propanesulfinyl group and iso-propylsulfinyl iso-propanesulfinyl group. For example, a methylsulfinyl methanesulfinyl group and ethylsulfinyl ethanesulfinyl group are preferable.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 7, through line 14 as follows:

The "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfonyloxy group" used in the specification of the present application refers to a group obtained by bonding an oxygen atom to a terminal of the above-defined "C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfonyl group". Examples include a methylsulfonyloxy methanesulfonyloxy group, ethylsulfonyloxy ethanesulfonyloxy group, n-propylsulfonyloxy n-propanesulfonyloxy group and iso-propylsulfonyloxy iso-propanesulfonyloxy group. For example, a methylsulfonyloxy methanesulfonyloxy group is preferable.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 15, through page 57, line 1 as follows:

Given as the substituent in a group "which may have a substituent" used in the specification of the present application is one or more groups selected from:

- (1) a halogen atom,

- (2) a hydroxyl group,
- (3) a thiol group,
- (4) a nitro group,
- (5) a nitroso group,
- (6) a cyano group,
- (7) a carboxyl group,
- (8) a hydroxysulfonyl sulfonyloxy group,
- (9) an amino group,
- (10) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group
  - (for example, a methyl group, ethyl group, n-propyl group, iso-propyl group, n-butyl group, iso-butyl group, sec-butyl group or tert-butyl group),
- (11) an unsaturated C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group
  - (for example, a vinyl group, allyl group, 1-propenyl group, isopropenyl group, ethynyl group, 1-propynyl group, 2-propynyl group, 1-butynyl group, 2-butynyl group or 3-butynyl group),
- (12) a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> aryl group
  - (for example, a phenyl group, 1-naphthyl group or 2-naphthyl group),
- (13) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryl group
  - (for example, a thienyl group, furyl group, pyridinyl group, pyridazinyl group, pyrimidinyl group or pyrazinyl group),
- (14) a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group
  - (for example, an aziridinyl group, azetidyl group, pyrrolidinyl group, pyrrolyl group, piperidinyl group, piperazinyl group, homopiperidinyl group, homopiperazinyl group, imidazolyl group,

pyrazolidinyl group, imidazolidyl group, morpholinyl group, thiomorpholinyl group, imidazolinyl group, oxazolinyl group or quinuclidinyl group),

(15) a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> cycloalkyl group (for example, a cyclopropyl group, cyclobutyl group, cyclopentyl group, cyclohexyl group, cycloheptyl group or cyclooctyl group),

(16) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkoxy group

(for example, a methoxy group, ethoxy group, n-propoxy group, iso-propoxy group, sec-propoxy group, n-butoxy group, iso-butoxy group or tert-butoxy group),

(17) an unsaturated C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkoxy group

(for example, a vinyloxy group, allyloxy group, 1-propenyloxy group, isopropenyloxy group, ethynyoxy group, 1-propynyloxy group, 2-propynyloxy group, 1-butynyloxy group or 2-butynyloxy group),

(18) a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> aryloxy group

(for example, a phenoxy group, 1-naphthyoxy group or 2-naphthyoxy group),

(19) a C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> aralkyloxy group

(for example, a benzyloxy group, phenethyoxy group, 3-phenylpropyloxy group, 4-phenylbutyloxy group, 1-naphthylmethyloxy group or 2-naphthylmethyloxy group),

(20) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaralkyloxy group

(for example, a thiethylmethyloxy group, furylmethyloxy group, pyridinylmethyloxy group, pyridazinylmethyloxy group, pyrimidinylmethyloxy group or pyrazinylmethyloxy group),

(21) a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryloxy group

(for example, a thiényloxy group, furyloxy group, pyridinyloxy group, pyridazinyloxy group, pyrimidinyloxy group or pyrazinyloxy group),

(22) an aliphatic C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> acyl group

(for example, an acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, iso-butyryl group, valeryl group, iso-valeryl group, ~~pivalyl~~ pivaloyl group, caproyl group, decanoyl group, lauroyl group, myristoyl group, palmitoyl group, stearoyl group, arachidoyl group, ~~aetyl~~ acryloyl group, ~~propiolic~~ propioyl group, ~~eretonyl~~ crotonoyl group, ~~isocrotonyl~~ isocrotonoyl group, ~~eleinel~~ oleoyl group or linolenoyl group),

(23) an aromatic C<sub>7</sub> to C<sub>15</sub> acyl group

(for example, a benzoyl group, 1-naphthoyl group or 2-naphthoyl group),

(24) an aliphatic C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> acyloxy group

(for example, an acetoxy group, propionyloxy group or acryloxy group),

(25) a C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkoxy carbonyl group

(for example, a methoxycarbonyl group, ethoxycarbonyl group, n-propoxycarbonyl group, isopropoxycarbonyl group, n-butoxycarbonyl group, iso-butoxycarbonyl group, sec-butoxycarbonyl group or tert-butoxycarbonyl group),

(26) an unsaturated C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkoxy carbonyl group

(for example, a vinyloxycarbonyl group, allyloxycarbonyl group, 1-propenyloxycarbonyl group, isopropenyloxycarbonyl group, propargyloxycarbonyl group or 2-butynyloxycarbonyl group),

(27) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylthio group

(for example, a methylthio group, ethylthio group, n-propylthio group or iso-propylthio group),

(28) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfinyl group

(for example, a ~~methylsulfinyl~~ methanesulfinyl group, ~~ethylsulfinyl~~ ethanesulfinyl group, ~~n-~~ propylsulfinyl n-propanesulfinyl group or ~~iso-~~ propylsulfinyl iso-propanesulfinyl group),

(29) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfonyl group

(for example, a ~~methylsulfonyl~~ methanesulfonyl group, ~~ethylsulfonyl~~ ethanesulfonyl group, ~~n-propylsulfonyl~~ n-propanesulfonyl group or ~~iso-propylsulfonyl~~ iso-propanesulfonyl group),

(30) a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> arylsulfonyl group

(for example, a benzenesulfonyl group, 1-naphthalenesulfonyl group or 2-naphthalenesulfonyl group),

(31) a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkylsulfonyloxy group

(for example, a ~~methylsulfonyloxy~~ methanesulfonyloxy group, ~~ethylsulfonyloxy~~ ethanesulfonyloxy group, ~~n-propylsulfonyloxy~~ n-propanesulfonyloxy group or ~~iso-propylsulfonyloxy~~ iso-propanesulfonyloxy group),

(32) a carbamoyl group,

(33) a formyl group, and the like. For example, an amino group, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group, an unsaturated C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> aryl group, a 5-membered to 14-membered heteroaryl group, a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> cycloalkyl group are preferable. In particular, for example, an amino group, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl group, a 3-membered to 14-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic group and a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> cycloalkyl group are preferable. In addition, the above-described amino group (9) and carbamoyl group (31) given as the substituents in the above-described group "which may have a substituent" may be each further substituted with one or two C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl groups, unsaturated C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>22</sub> alkyl groups or C<sub>6</sub> to C<sub>14</sub> aryl groups.